

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands

SL: CYH Newsletter

Our call to action to health workers

5 April 2018

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It's only one month now until 5 May 2018, the global hand hygiene campaign day! Are you disseminating the campaign messages to ensure your colleagues continue to take hand hygiene action? Have you used the wording from newsletters to send on to others? Invite your colleagues to work with you to promote hand hygiene and infection prevention and control (IPC) practices to prevent sepsis in health care. The broader the engagement, the more successful you will be in raising awareness and improving hand hygiene and IPC – it's in your hands, prevent sepsis in health care!

If your organization features a web link to the WHO campaign, WHO will feature it on the dedicated 5 May 2018 campaign web page, in acknowledgement – just let us know you have done this!

A summary of 5 May 2018 campaign resources for you

All campaign resources can be found [here](#). Remember, the WHO [campaign toolkit](#) explains how and when you can get involved and promote hand hygiene action to save lives in health care.

- Posters – a generic campaign poster and five other targeted posters, directed specifically at health workers, IPC leaders, health facility leaders, ministries of health and patient advocacy groups.
- A campaign banner that can be used on your web pages and in your newsletters to cascade the campaign message.
- A promotional photograph board that can be used in your social media messaging using #handhygiene #sepsis.
- A 5 May 2018 advocacy slide set to use at any of your meetings or events.
- Links to existing WHO hand hygiene resources, including posters focusing on the “My 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene” during various health care interventions, to prevent health care-associated infections (HAI).

5 May 2018 SL:CYH posters in different languages now available and more resources and social media messages to come

Posters in different languages are now ready for use, in [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#). We will keep updating the [campaign web page](#) as other languages become available. An [advocacy slide set](#) in French is also now available.

Coming soon, an infographic and animation video on how to prevent sepsis, including the evolution of sepsis in health care and how IPC plays a role. A video message from Professor Didier Pittet, Dr Benedetta Allegranzi and Professor Konrad Reinhart will also be released shortly on the WHO YouTube channel. You can use this at your events. It delivers a strong message of support for IPC in the prevention of sepsis in health care. Additionally, new IPC materials in support of implementation of the core components at the facility level will be [issued](#), alongside a number of other supporting documents and a new IPC training module on leadership.

WHO will issue social media messages in the days running up to 5 May 2018. Be sure to use the hashtags #handhygiene and #sepsis in any social media messages you decide to issue. We will soon be announcing how to post your campaign photos using the promotional [photograph board](#) so that they can be uploaded for a dedicated website managed by Professor Didier Pittet; using the social media hashtags will be critical to this! We want to create a social media 'buzz' closer to 5 May and your support is critical to ensuring this happens – let's make this the most successful year for campaign social media reach so far!

Health care facility registrations – demonstrate support for the campaign

As of April 2018, 20 614 health facilities across 179 countries had registered commitment to the campaign which means taking ongoing action to improve hand hygiene and prevent HAI. You can find out more about the countries with registered health care facilities [here](#).

By [signing up](#) to the campaign, facilities can feel part of this movement to improve the quality of health care through better hand hygiene action. Being part of the campaign also means facilities are more connected with WHO evidence-based resources and new announcements. Together let's increase the number of health facilities registered to demonstrate support for this global campaign! You can send messages to the societies and professional bodies that you are part of, asking them to engage health facilities to sign up. You can also feature information on how to sign up to the campaign at any events and host information on your web pages. Thank you!

Sepsis engagement – neonatal and paediatric sepsis

Anyone can get sepsis and we have emphasized the importance of engaging colleagues in different fields to ensure sepsis awareness that can lead to better prevention. This is especially true of helping the most vulnerable populations, including newborns and children. A recent [review](#) reported that sepsis can affect

3 million newborns and 1.2 million children every year globally. Sepsis kills up to half a million newborns every year. It is also noteworthy that a high occurrence of HAI in neonatal and paediatric populations is found not only in intensive care units (ICUs) but also outside ICUs, such as in some paediatric wards and children's hospitals. Neonatal HAI are also reported to be 3-20 times higher in resource-limited settings. Therefore, the impact of hand hygiene and other IPC measures on these populations is very significant. The SL:CYH campaign is not owned by IPC specialists, but rather aims to influence the behaviour and attitudes of other health care colleagues as well, so that they too become strong advocates. Why not talk directly to your colleagues working with neonates and children to share this information and to tell them how important the "[5 Moments for Hand Hygiene](#)" are in preventing HAI and sepsis in health care.

Other updates and information

WHO Free Webber Teleclass, 2.30–3.30pm CET, 3 May (Thur) – a special lecture for the 5 May 2018 campaign by Dr Benedetta Allegranzi and Professor Didier Pittet will be hosted on 3 May. Register [here](#).

Join the WHO antimicrobial resistance (AMR) community of practice – why not join WHO's online forum for those developing and implementing AMR national action plans, since IPC is often discussed. Join [here](#).

International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) Congress – this congress will be held on 25-27 April in Krakow, Poland. Get more information [here](#).

7th Infection Control Africa Network Congress, 8-11 July 2018 – This congress will be held in South Africa this year. Get further information [here](#).

Thank you for supporting IPC and hand hygiene in health care! All of you are contributing to the campaign, reaching almost all the countries of the world, whatever language you speak. Be proud of yourself and be a champion of promoting hand hygiene to prevent sepsis in health care – it's in your hands!

The WHO Infection Prevention and Control Global Unit Team

www.who.int/infection-prevention/en/

Past information on SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands can be found in [previous newsletters](#) and on our [web pages](#).

Providing WHO information has to be balanced with available resources, both human and financial. WHO do their best to translate their most relevant tools and documents. Regretfully, we are not currently in a position to translate this SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands newsletter into French or Spanish. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and hope that you will remain a valued reader of the newsletter.

La délivrance d'informations provenant de l'OMS dépend des ressources disponibles, à la fois humaines et financières. L'OMS, comprenant l'équipe "Un Soins Propres est un Soins plus sûr", fait de son mieux pour traduire ses outils et documents les plus importants. Malheureusement, nous ne sommes pas actuellement en mesure de traduire la lettre d'information mensuelle de SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands en français et en espagnol. Nous nous excusons pour ce désagrément et espérons que vous resterez un fidèle lecteur de la lettre d'information à l'avenir.

La información generada por la OMS, depende de los recursos humanos y económicos disponibles. El Programa, y el equipo de la iniciativa "Cuidado Limpio es Cuidado Seguro", realizan sus mejores esfuerzos para traducir el material y documentos de mayor importancia. Desafortunadamente, por el momento no contamos con la facilidad de traducir el boletín mensual SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands en francés o español. Le pedimos disculpas por cualquier inconveniente que podamos causarle, y esperamos seguir contando con su valiosa participación como lector de nuestro boletín.